

REMARKS

The above amendment was made to reflect the original claim language with respect to the term "esters" in claim 26. In the Office Action of July 24, 2002, claim 26 was objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as allegedly being in improper dependent form for failing to provide antecedent basis for the plural term "esters", because the claim from which it depended (claim 22) recited "A process for the preparation of an ester..."

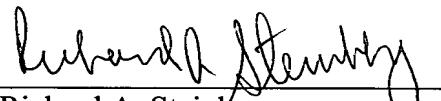
37 CFR 1.75(c) requires that "[c]laims in dependent form shall be construed to include all the limitations of the claim incorporated by reference into the dependent claim." Applicants note that "an ester" is produced by the reaction of two esters that produces two different esters by the exchange of alkoxy groups. Therefore all of the limitations of claim 22 are incorporated into claim 29. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached Appendix is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 
Richard A. Steinberg
Reg. No. 26,588
Direct No. (703) 905-2039

Paul L. Sharer
Reg. No. 36,004
Direct No. (703) 905-2039

RAS/CMB
1600 Tysons Boulevard
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000 Telephone
(703) 905-2500 Facsimile
Attorney Reference: 083255/0284080
Attachment: Appendix

JAN 24 2003

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

LINDALL et al. -- U.S. Serial No. 09/991,653

APPENDIX: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

26. (Amended) A process according to claim 22, wherein the esterification reaction comprises reaction of two esters to produce two different esters by exchange of alkoxy groups [a transesterification reaction].

End of Appendix